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KNUCKLES: THE RETURN
PART 2 OF 4
#10
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SEGA®
SONIC UNIVERSE™
Tracy Yardley!
HUNZEKER
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Welcome to the planet Mobius – a world unique and beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Knuckles the Echidna, guardian of Angel Island, defends his friends and homeland from the forces of evil!

ECHOES of the PAST

PART TWO

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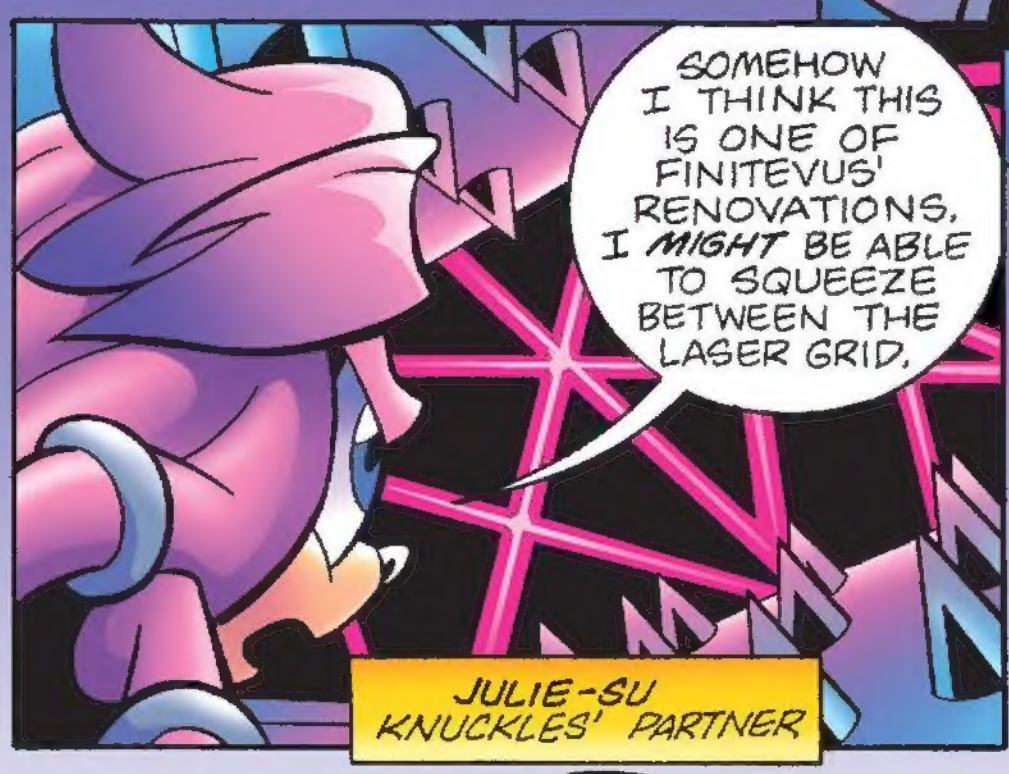
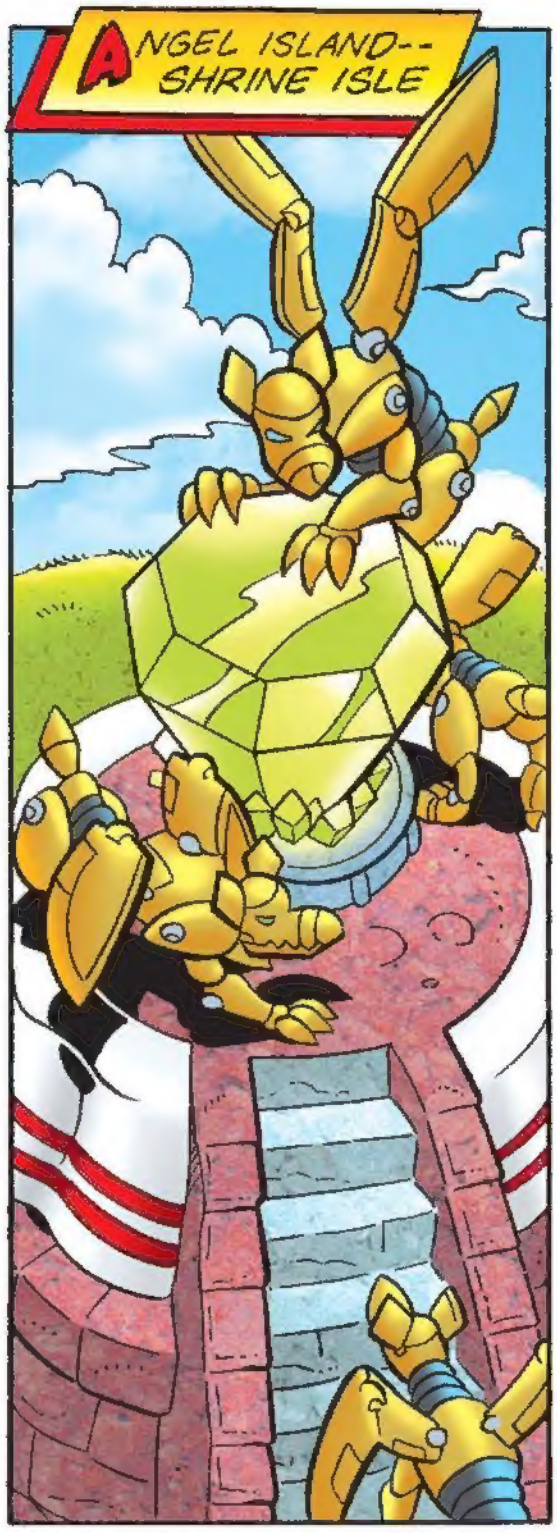
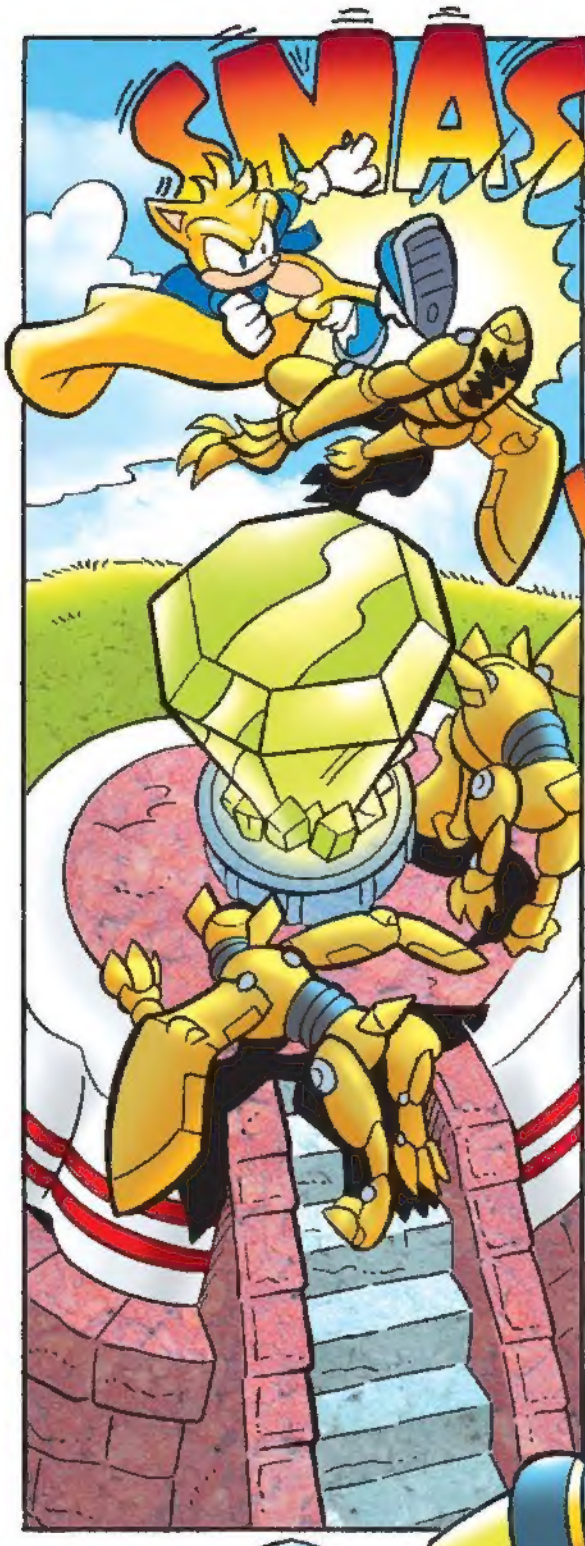
NO GOOD! I WON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO BREAK THEM DOWN!
KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA GUARDIAN OF ANGEL ISLAND

I'LL GIVE THE ANCIENT ALBIONITES THIS:
THEY KNOW HOW TO BUILD A STURDY DEATH TRAP!
MIGHTY THE ARMADILLO CHAOTIX STRONG-MAN


SOMEHOW I THINK THIS IS ONE OF FINITEVUS' RENOVATIONS. I MIGHT BE ABLE TO SQUEEZE BETWEEN THE LASER GRID.
JULIE-SU KNUCKLES' PARTNER

ANYONE ELSE WISH THEY'D SWAPPED MASTER EMERALD GUARDING DUTIES WITH VECTOR?


ANGEL ISLAND--
SHRINE ISLE

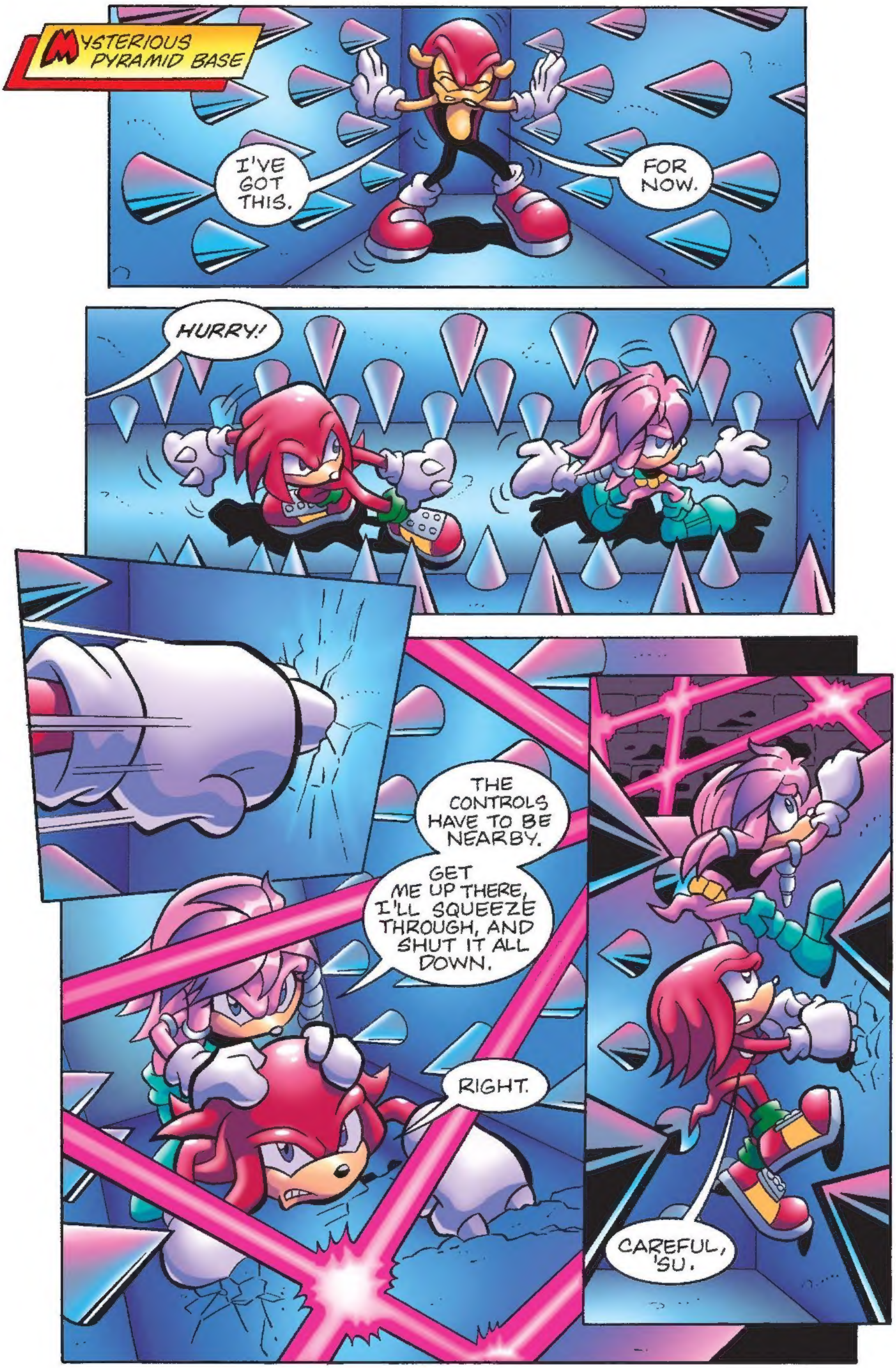

SMASH

WHAM
CRASH

THREE DOWN...
RAY THE FLYING SQUIRREL CHAOTIX JUNIOR MEMBER
AND A-ABOUT A B-B-BAJILLION TO GO.
VECTOR THE CROCODILE CHAOTIX DE FACTO LEADER

I TAKE IT BACK!
WE COULD REALLY USE ESPIO RIGHT NOW, TRAITOR OR NOT! *
*SEE STH#202
THERE'S T-T-TOO MANY OF THEM! WE GOTTA R-R-RUN FOR IT!
NOT A CHANCE!
I'M NOT LETTING THE MASTER EMERALD GO ON MY WATCH!
RAR!

BLEHK!
Y-Y-Y-YOU S-S-SAID TH-TH-THAT...
SAVE YOUR BREATH, KIDDO. YOU'LL NEED IT.
THERE'S A WHOLE CONTINENT DOWN THERE THAT WOULD GET SMASHED IF ANGEL ISLAND DROPPED.
AND AT THIS POINT, THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN.


MYSTERIOUS PYRAMID BASE
I'VE GOT THIS.
FOR NOW.
HURRY!
THE CONTROLS HAVE TO BE NEARBY.
GET ME UP THERE, I'LL SQUEEZE THROUGH, AND SHUT IT ALL DOWN.
RIGHT.
CAREFUL, 'SU.

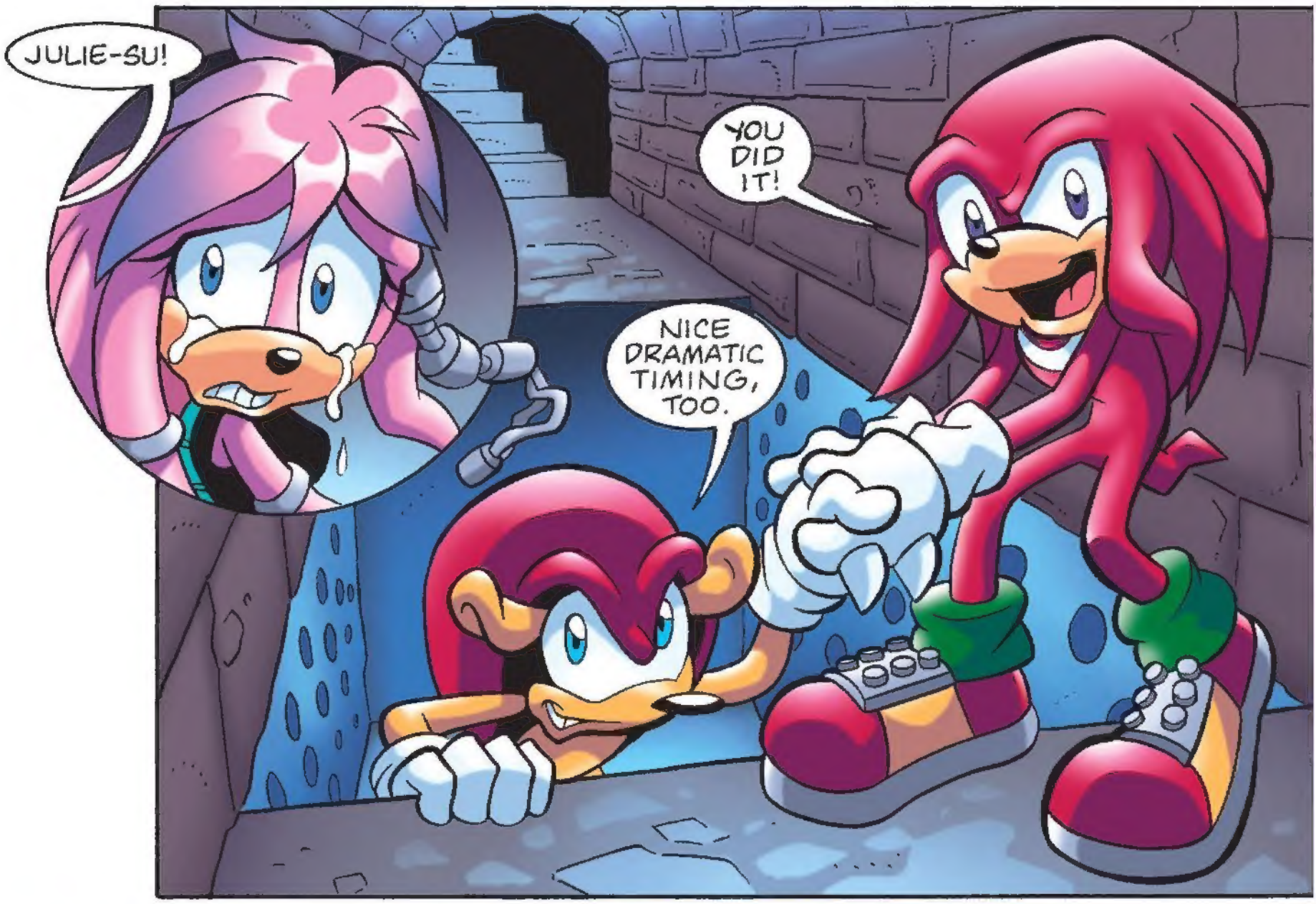
EASY...
EASY...!

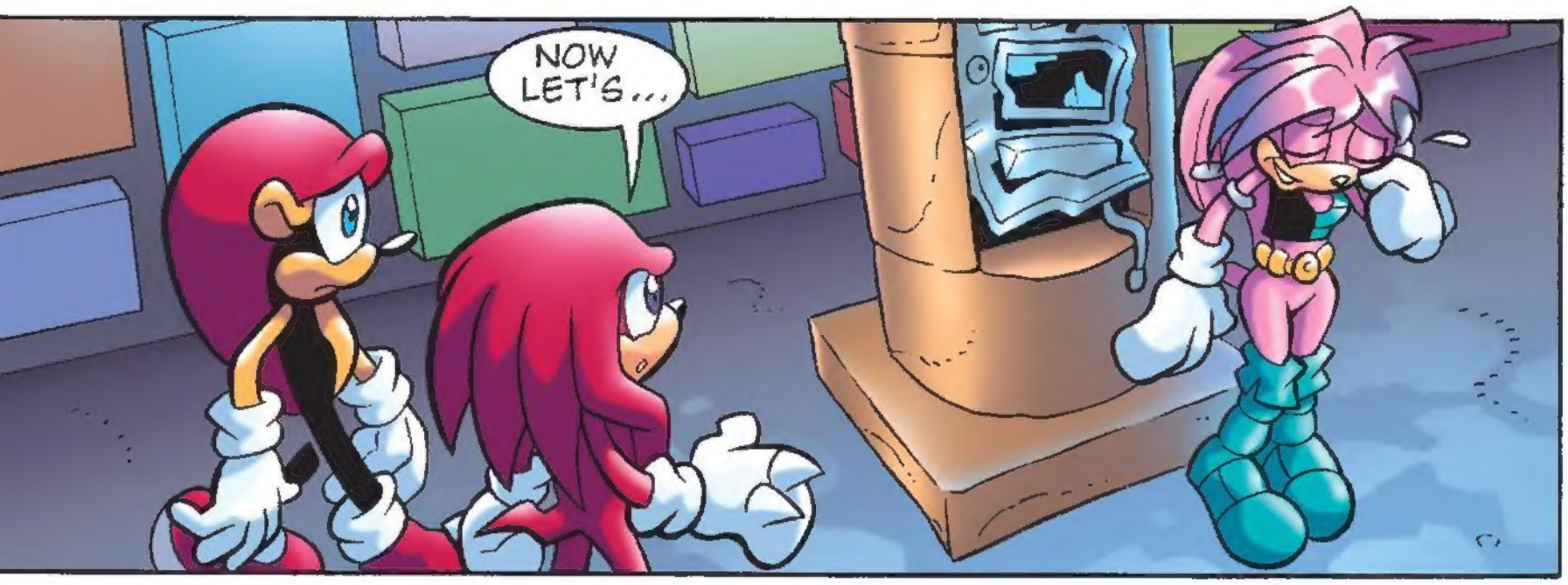
OW!

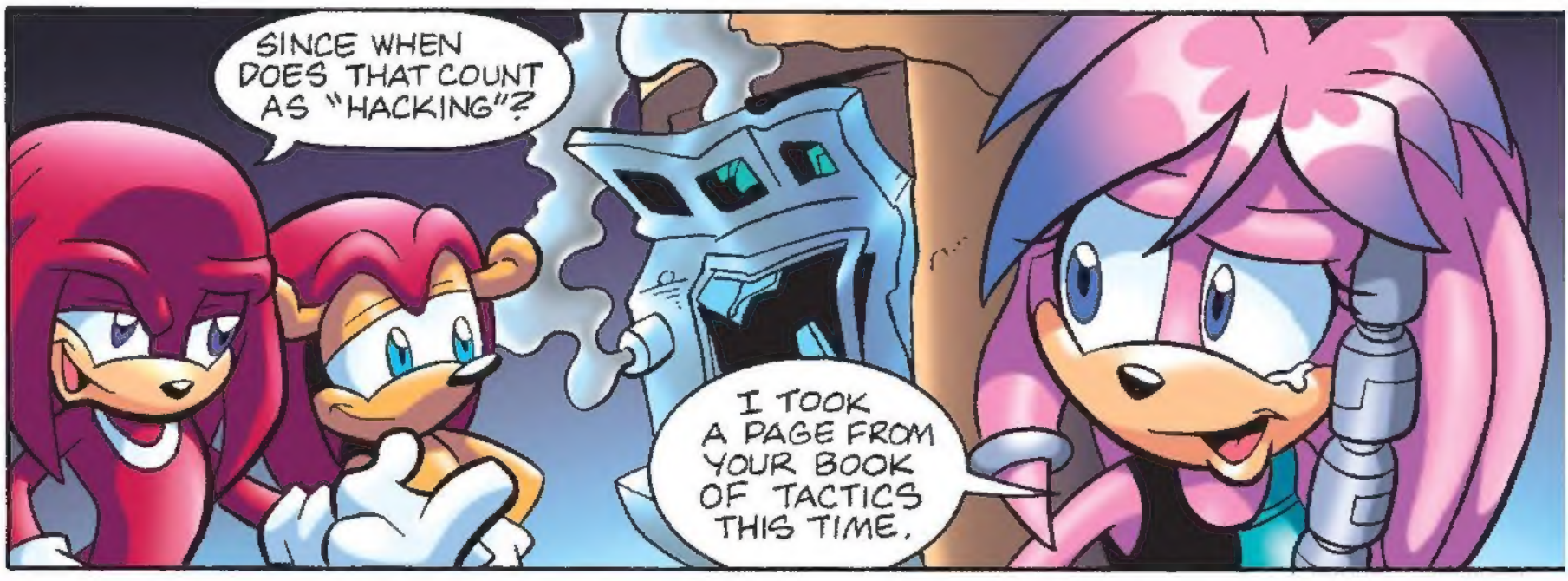
JULIE-SUZ?!
IT'S NOTHING! I'M ON MY WAY!

I FOUND THE CONTROLS!

COME ON! COME ON! LET ME IN!
MAYBE YOUR SHELL WOULD PROTECT YOU WHILE I...
YOU'VE SELF-SACRIFICED ENOUGH...
DENIED?!
MAYBE IF I USE--NO! NO NO NO!
BLAM
BLAST YOU!


JULIE-SU!
YOU DID IT!
NICE DRAMATIC TIMING, TOO.

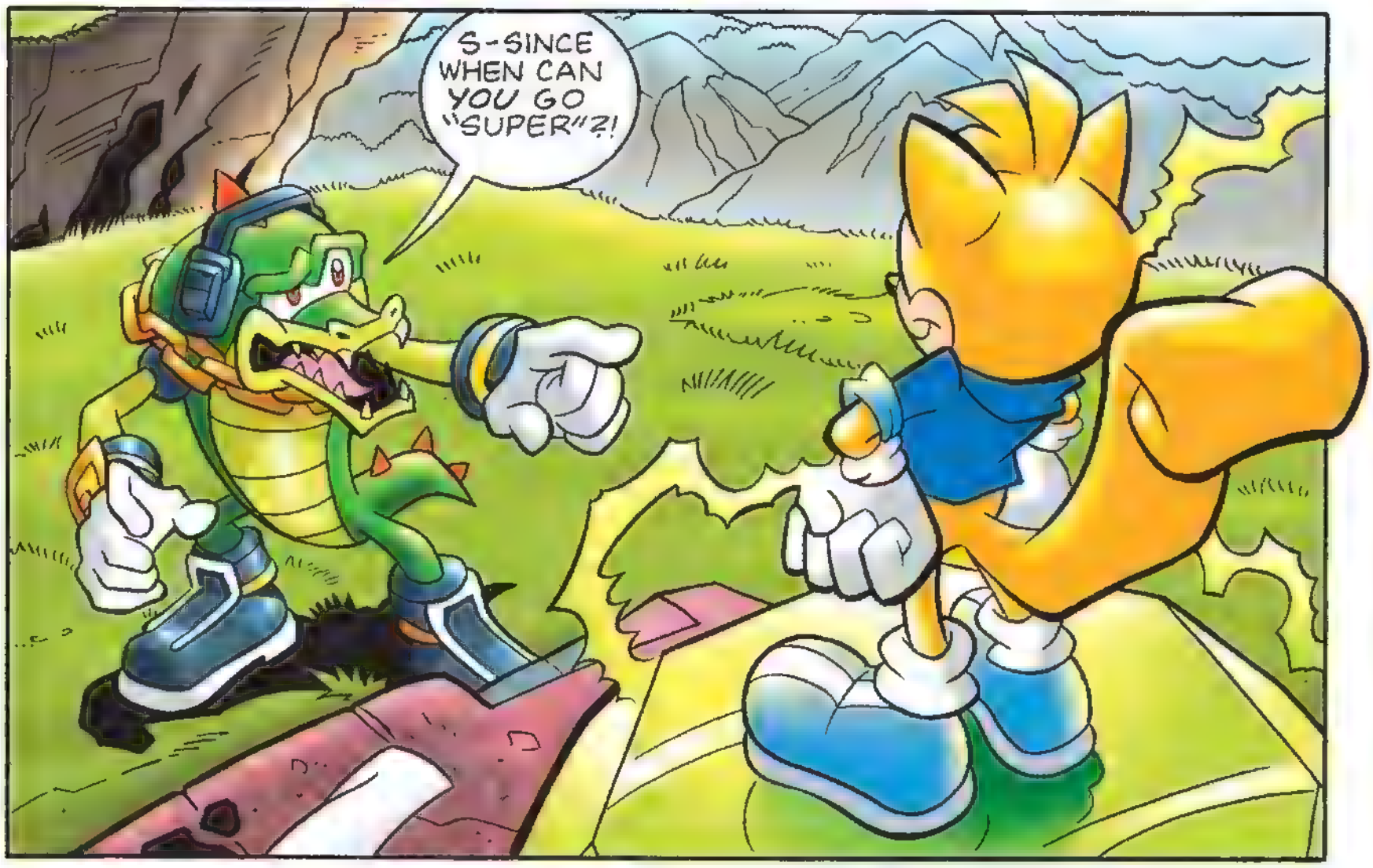

NOW LET'S...


SINCE WHEN DOES THAT COUNT AS "HACKING"?
I TOOK A PAGE FROM YOUR BOOK OF TACTICS THIS TIME.

I THINK WE FOUND THE LAB, GUYS.
I NEVER TOOK FINITEVUS TO BE SUCH A SLOB.
NO, IT LOOKS LIKE THE GENERAL'S TROOPS RANSACKED THE PLACE. THANKS A LOT.
I DOUBT THEY GOT INTO THE DATABASE, THOUGH.
JUST DON'T BLASTER-HACK THIS ONE.
YOU HUSH. I SAVED YOUR LIFE.
GUYS?
I THINK I FOUND SOMETHING.

SHRINE ISLE
A-A-ALRIGHT TH-TH-THEN... L-L-LOOKS LIKE I-I-IT'S UP T-T-TO ME!
RAY! WHAT ARE YOU...?!
I D-D-DIDN'T W-W-WANT IT TO C-COME T-TO THIS BUT...
NOW YOU FACE SUPER RAY!

YIPE! YIPE! YIPE!
YIPE!


S-SINCE WHEN CAN YOU GO "SUPER"?!

HAHAHA! I CAN'T!
B-BUT TH-THEY DIDN'T KNOW THAT.

YOU KNEW BETTER, R-R-RIGHT?
OF COURSE! I HAD TO PLAY ALONG OR THEY'D FIGURE IT OUT!

LET'S PRETEND I DIDN'T KNOW HOW YOU PULLED THAT STUNT, THOUGH.
KNUCKLES T-TOLD ME THAT ITS P-POWER REACTS T-TO ANYONE. J-JUST THAT IT REACTS B-BETTER TO SOME THAN OTHERS.
ZZZT
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT. I'M IMPRESSED.
JUST LIKE YOU S-SAID! A GOOD D-DETECTIVE TURNS ANY USEFUL INFORMATION TO THEIR A-ADVANTAGE!

SANDOPOLIS-- PYRAMID LAB

LOOKS LIKE THE DOCTOR'S AWAY ON BUSINESS.

WHICH EXPLAINS WHY THE DINGOES GOT IN AND OUT ALIVE. I WONDER WHERE THIS GOES?

ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT.

WHOA! HOLD IT!

FWASH

WHERE...?

WE'RE BACK AT THE START OF THE RUINS!

ENOUGH TRICKS!

FINITEVUS! COME OUT HERE AND FACE ME!

SAVE YOUR BREATH, SWEETIE. WE'RE NOT ON ANGEL ISLAND ANYMORE.

SO THIS PROVES IT.
THE RUINS WERE HERE BEFORE THE ISLAND WAS MADE.
BUT THERE WERE NO SETTLEMENTS BACK THEN!
THAT YOU KNOW OF.
QUITE THE MYSTERY, ISN'T IT?

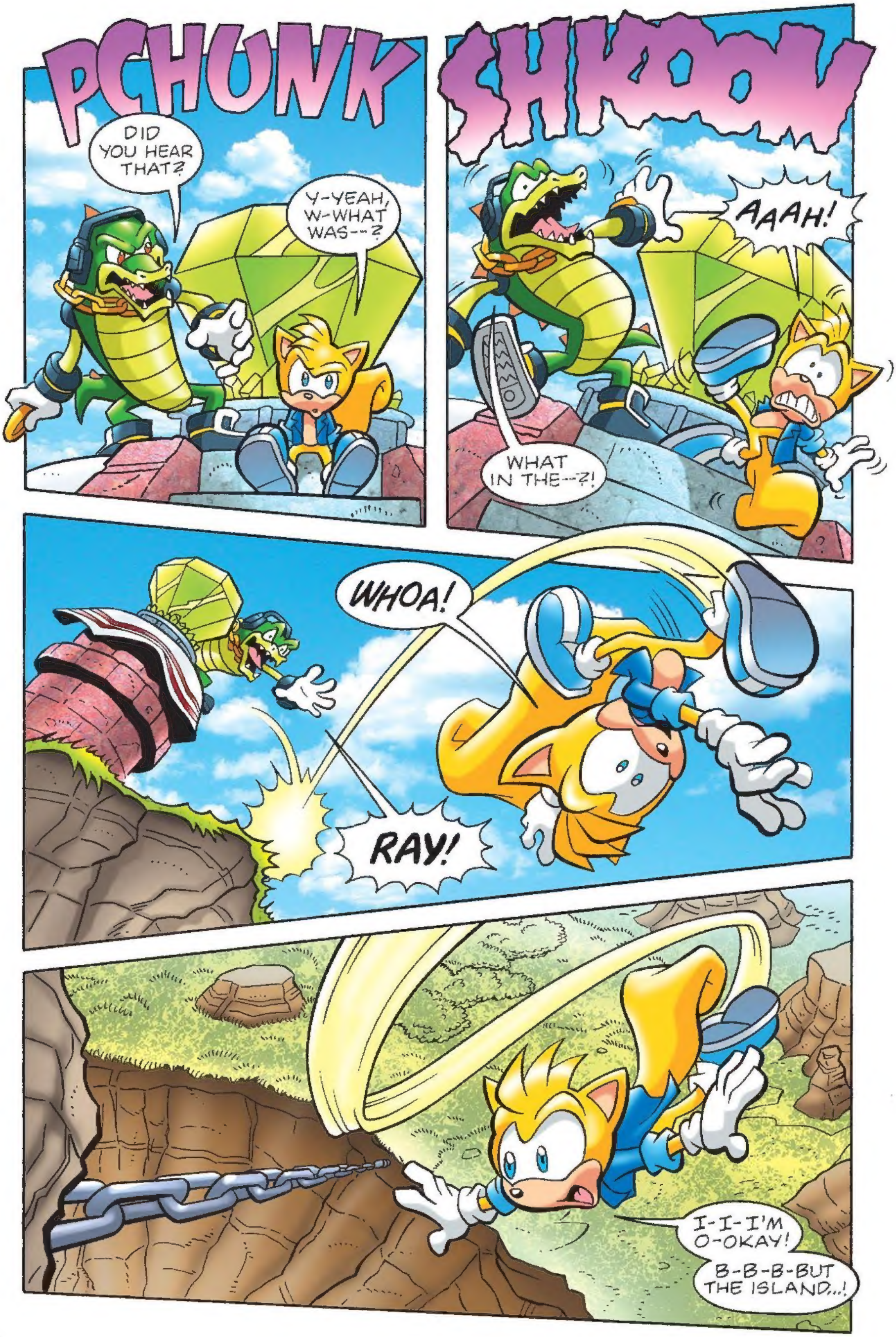
COME BACK HERE, COWARD! YOU HAVE A LOT TO ANSWER FOR!
WHAT YOU DID TO MY FATHER!
WHAT YOU DID TO OUR PEOPLE!
WHAT YOU DID TO KNUCKLES!

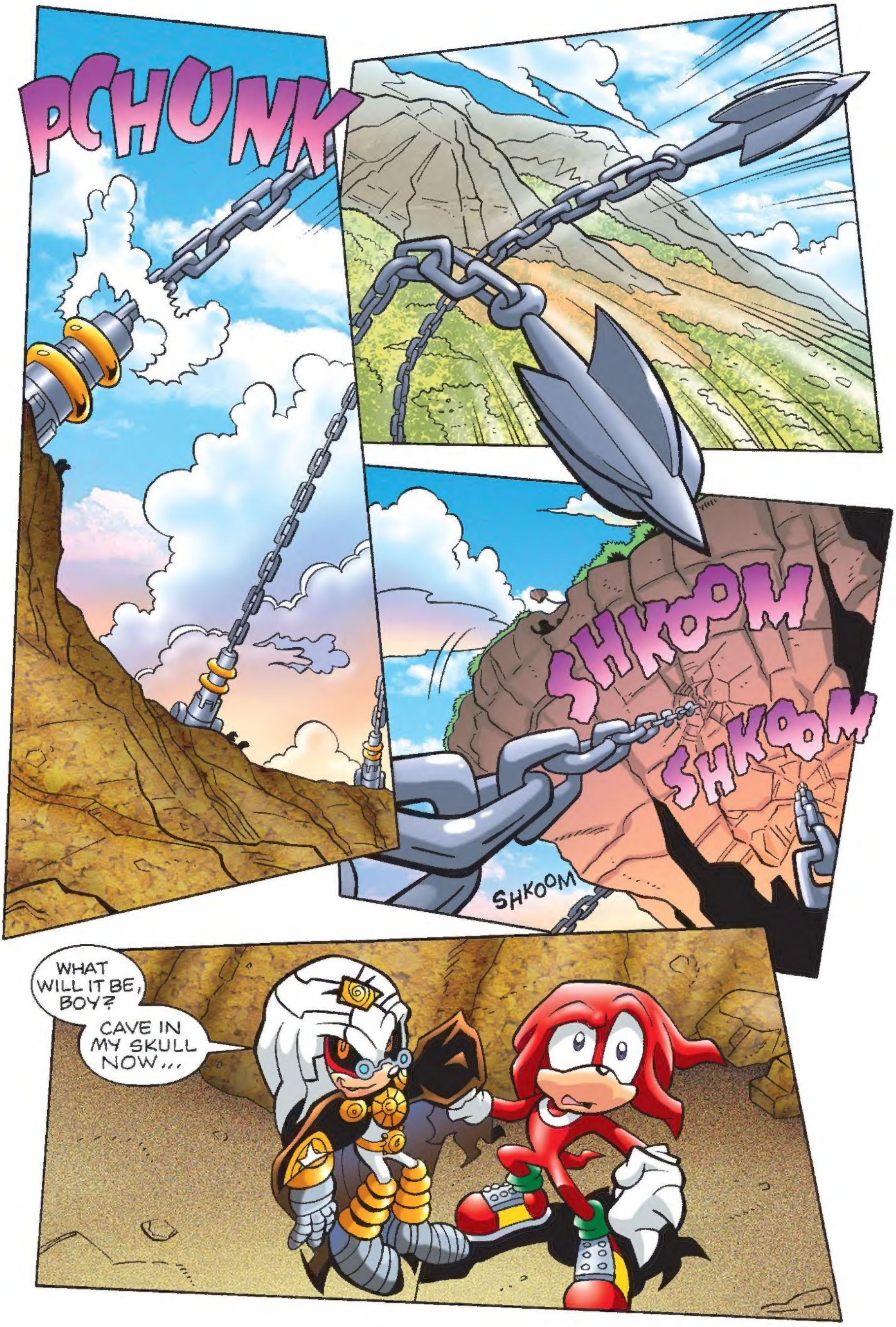
WHAT I DID?
I MADE HIM A GOD. I MADE HIM PART OF THIS WORLD'S REBIRTH.
I HELPED TO WEED OUT THE AGED AND CORRUPT ECHIDNA RACE.
AND LOCKE DIED BY HIS OWN STUPIDITY, IF NOT HIS HUBRIS.
NOT THAT I HAVE TO ANSWER TO YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE.

AUGH!

WHUD

ANGEL ISLAND-- SHRINE ISLE
H-HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ROBOTS L-LIKE THAT BEFORE?
NO, BUT I'VE HEARD OF THEM.
THEY SOUND LIKE THE ROBOTS CROC-BOT USED TO USE.
BUT S-SONIC DESTROYED HIM FOR GOOD, RIGHT? *
THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT.
THAT DOESN'T MEAN ROBOTNIK'S HOLD ON DOWNUNDA WAS GONE FOR GOOD, THOUGH.
*BACK IN STH #160
WE'RE OVER DOWNUNDA TO BOOT. THAT'S TOO MUCH OF A COINCIDENCE FOR ME. DO YOU STILL HAVE ONE OF OUR WARP RINGS?
Y-YEAH, JUST A SEC...
I HATE TO LEAVE THE MASTER EMERALD ALONE, BUT WE NEED TO FIND KNUCKLES AND TELL HIM WHAT'S GOING ON.


PCHUNK
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
Y-YEAH, W-WHAT WAS--?
SHKOOW
AAAH!
WHAT IN THE--?!
WHOA!
RAY!
I-I-I'M O-OKAY!
B-B-B-BUT THE ISLAND...!


PCHUNK
SHKOOM
SHKOOM
SHKOOM
WHAT WILL IT BE, BOY?
CAVE IN MY SKULL NOW...

...OR WE CAN SAVE YOUR PRECIOUS ISLAND.
Mysteries abound!
What is the secret of the ruins?
Where did the robot army come from?
How is Finitevus involved in all this?
Surprises are comin' at ya next time in
Sonic Universe #11!